

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application claims 4-6, of which claim 4 is independent. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter and at least independent claim 1 will be presented by way of a divisional application in due course.

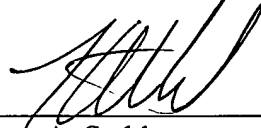
In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 4-6 recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As the Examiner will appreciate, claim 4 has been rewritten into independent form. In addition, claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 4 and to address the objections based on antecedent basis grounds therein. It is respectfully submitted that claim 4, as well as claims 5 and 6, are now in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stahl', written over a horizontal line.

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